



WATH-UPON-DEARNE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
AND THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR
1938.

WATH-UPON-DEARNE :
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Wath-upon-Dearne Urban District Council.

MEMBERS 1939 to 1940.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR I. BRAMHAM, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR M. R. SWIFT.

COUNCILLORS :

P. R. BAKER	J. T. MILLS
F. L. BEEVERS	E. MORTON
J. A. BRAITHWAITE	P. B. NICHOLSON, J.P.
H. CUTTS, C.C.	D. O. SHAW
E. W. EVERS	C. SMITH
A. FAIRHURST	O. VARNEY
	A. WILD.

OFFICIALS.

Clerks :

Messrs. NICHOLSON & Co.

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. T. CROWLEY, L.R.C.P.S. (L) & L.M.

Engineer and Surveyor :

Mr. W. E. HAIGH, A.M.I.C.E.

Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. W. W. WILKINSON, M.S.I.A.

Deputy Clerk :

Mr. W. H. ROBERTS.

Accountant :

Mr. S. ASKEW.



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1938.



To the Chairman and Members of the
Wath-upon-Dearne Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year 1938, together with the vital statistics for the year.

The Report is arranged generally on the lines of Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health, dated 25th October. 1938.

1. General Statistics.

Area of the District	...	...	...	...	2,665 acres.
Population (1931 Census)	...	...	...	...	13,655.
Population (Estimated Midsummer 1938)	...	...	...	...	13,520.
Height above sea-level	...	...	...	...	70 to 325 feet.
Number of Inhabited Houses, 31st Dec., 1938	...	...	...	...	3,770.
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	...	£184.
Rateable Value (September 1938)	...	...	...	...	£50,568.
Rainfall for the year	...	...	...	...	26'12 inches.
Number of days on which rain fell	...	...	...	...	163 days.
Zymotic death rate	...	...	...	...	0'518.
Respiratory death rate	...	...	...	...	0'960.
Tuberculosis death rate	{	Pulmonary	...	...	0'592.
		Other forms	...	...	0'074.
Cancer death rate	...	...	...	...	1'703

2. Social Conditions of the District.

Coal mining is the chief industry in the District, and the majority of the male members of the population are employed in this work. Other industries carried on are manufacture of by-products from coal, glass manufacture and agriculture.

3. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

		Males	Females	TOTAL
Live Births	{ Legitimate	114	122	236
	{ Illegitimate	7	3	10
	TOTALS	121	125	246
Still Births	{ Legitimate	11	1	12
	{ Illegitimate	—	—	—
	TOTALS	11	1	12

Birth Rate { Live Births 18'21 per 1,000 population.
 Still Births 46'51 per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
 (The Birth-rate for England and Wales (live births) was 15'1 per 1,000).

	Males	Females	TOTAL
Deaths	93	61	154

These figures give a crude death-rate of 11'403 per 1,000 population.

The crude death-rate is not satisfactory for comparison with the death-rates for other districts, or for England and Wales as a whole owing to the variation in age and sex distribution in different areas. The Registrar-General has supplied a figure (which for this district is 1'22) known as the "Areal Comparability Factor" with which the figure for the Crude Death-rate is multiplied so as to obtain the Adjusted Death-rate. The Adjusted Death-rate is suitable for comparing with the Adjusted Death-rate for other districts, or with the Death-rate for England and Wales.

Adjusted Death-rate 13'912 per 1,000 population.
 (Death-rate for England and Wales 11'6 per 1,000 population).

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

	DEATHS	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other Puerperal diseases	2	7'75
TOTALS	2	7'75

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	28'45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	25'42
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	100'00
For England and Wales (all infants per 1,000 live births) ...	53'00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	23
„ „ Measles (all ages)	3
„ „ Whooping cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

Deaths from All Causes.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Males	Females	TOTAL
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Measles	...	...	...	2	1	3
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	2	4
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	—	1	1
9.	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	...	...	...	7	1	8
10.	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	General paralysis of the insane	...	...	...	—	—	—
	tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	15	8	23
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	3	3
15.	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	3	—	3
16.	Heart disease	...	...	...	22	20	42
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	...	—	—	—
18.	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	10	3	13
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	1	4
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	6	3	9
21.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—
22.	Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	2	—	2
23.	Diarrhœa, &c. (under two years)	...	...	...	—	—	—
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Cirrhosis of the liver	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Other diseases of the liver	...	...	...	—	2	2
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	2	—	2
28.	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	1	1	2
29.	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	—	2	2
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, &c.	...	...	...	1	3	4
32.	Senility	...	...	...	4	4	8
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	3	1	4
34.	Other violence	...	...	...	4	3	7
35.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	5	2	7
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 as above):—							
	Small-pox	...	...	...	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
					93	61	154

Inquests were held in respect of the deaths of 16 persons who were normally resident in this district. The findings at the inquests were as follows :—

Deaths from natural causes	...	...	5
Accidental deaths	...	...	6
Other deaths from violence	...	...	5

Deaths from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases.

Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	0
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	4
Diarrhoea (under two years)	...	...	...	...	0
TOTAL					7

The above figures are equal to an Annual Zymotic Death-rate of 0·518 per 1,000 population as compared with 0·592 in the previous year.

The Death-rate for Diarrhoea diseases (under 2 years of age) was Nil; that for England and Wales was 5·5 per 1,000 live births.

4. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

Compared with 1937, there was an increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified, but a decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria.

The following table shows the number of notifications received during the past eight years :—

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1836	1937	1938
Scarlet Fever	16	67	57	177	208	70	11	24
Diphtheria	7 (3 neg.)	8 (5 neg.)	9 (4 neg.)	112 (40 neg.)	169 (62 neg.)	61 (22 neg.)	125 (42 neg.)	80 (29 neg.)

5. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	DEATHS
Small-pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	24	23	—
Diphtheria	80★	80	4
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	7	—	9
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Polio-Myelitis	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—	1

★ 29 cases were negative.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Respiratory M.	Non-Respiratory F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	2	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
25—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
35—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	2	1	Nil	7	1	1	Nil

6. Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions for the District.

Professional Nursing in the Home (Wath and West Melton) :—
2 District Nurses (Charitable Associations).

Midwives (Number practising in the District)	...	...	3
Health Visitors (under the Authority of the County Council)			2

Clinics and Treatment Centres :—

Name.	Station.	Nature of Accommodation.	By whom Provided.
Welfare Centre.	Dunford House, Doncaster Road, Wath.	Waiting Room, Weighing Room, Consultation Room.	County Council.
„	Wesleyan Schoolroom, Princess Street, West Melton.	Waiting Room, Weighing Room, Consultation Room.	County Council.

Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases :—

Controlled by the County Council.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by Local Authority :—

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. Tuberculosis | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |
| 2. Maternity | ... | ... | West Riding County Council.
(Maternity Ward, Montagu Hospital, Mexborough). | | | | |
| 3. Children | ... | ... | Montagu Hospital, Mexborough. | | | | |
| 4. Fever | Wath, Swinton & District Joint Hospital Board.
(Wath Wood Hospital). | | | | | | |
| 5. Small-pox | Wath, Swinton & District Joint Hospital Board.
(Hoover Hospital). | | | | | | |
| 6. Other | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil. |

Ambulance Facilities :—

(a) Infectious Diseases :—

Two Motor Ambulances (Wath Wood Hospital).
One Motor Ambulance (Hoover Hospital).

(b) Non-infectious and Accident Cases :—

Motor Ambulance provided jointly by Mexborough, Swinton and Wath Urban District Councils.

7. Laboratory Work.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted to the County Bacteriologist. Free use has been made of this facility during the year.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied to Medical Practitioners by the department as required.

8. List of Adoptive Acts.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890
(Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5).

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907
(Parts 2, 3 and 5 and 6, and Sections 52 to 67 of Part 4).

Public Health Act, 1925
(Parts 2, 3 and 5, and Sections 45, 46, 47 and 50 of Part 4).

NOTE.—Certain Parts and Sections of the above-mentioned
Adoptive Acts have been repealed by the Public
Health Act, 1936.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Byelaws.

New Streets and Buildings.	Nuisances.
Common Lodging-houses.	Pleasure Grounds.
Slaughter-houses.	Offensive Trade of Fish Frier.

9. Sanitary Administration.

Details are given in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector
which is appended hereto.

10. Public Health Staff.

★Medical Officer of Health : T. CROWLEY, L.R.C.P.S. (Ire.) & L.M.

★Sanitary Inspector - - - W. W. WILKINSON.

Qualifications .

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
Meat and Foods Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate in Sanitary Science of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Pupil Assistant - - J. D. HACKFORD.

★ Salaries of both Officers contributed to by Grants.

11. Housing.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	92
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	229
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	80
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	188

(3)	Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	63
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	21
2.	<i>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—</i>	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	36
3.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—</i>	
A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	5
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By Owners	5
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13, Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
D.	Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding :—

(a) (i)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	54
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...				63
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...			437
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...		11
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	20
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases					162
4.	<i>Number of New Houses erected during the Year 1938 :</i>					
(a)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	By private enterprise	...	...	...	...	40
					Total	40

5. *Housing Conditions :—*

(1)	Total number of houses in the district	...				3,788
(2)	Number of working-class houses included in the above	...	..	...	...	3,628

Sanitary Conditions of the Area.**WATER SUPPLY.**

Water for public supply is obtained from boreholes into the Oaks Rock of the coal measures. With very few exceptions, every house in the District has a piped supply of water laid on into the house. Six samples of water were taken from the public supply, one for chemical analysis and 5 for bacteriological examination. The reports received upon the examination of the samples show the water to be satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

New lengths of 9" sewer were laid at Newhill in connection with the new houses in course of erection there.

Number of houses not connected to the sewers 8

Sewers found to be in need of improvement :—

Melton Green to Town end sewer.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action was taken with respect to the prevention of pollution of rivers and streams.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A regular weekly removal of house refuse from dustbins was maintained during the year and few complaints of neglect to empty dustbins were received. Steps were also taken with a view to adopting desirable improvements in connection with the disposal of refuse.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There is one public swimming bath in the District and this is owned by the Council. The satisfactory condition of the water is now ensured by the plant brought into operation in 1937, which gives continuous purification and sterilisation of the water. According to reports received upon two samples of bath water submitted for examination, the bacteriological content was satisfactory. The baths were maintained in an excellent sanitary condition throughout the season.

SCHOOLS.

The public elementary schools in your district are kept clean and well ventilated. The water supplied at each school is drawn from the public water supplies, and the general sanitary conditions were found to be satisfactory. Disinfection of the schools was carried out twice during the year. School children in contact with cases of Scarlet Fever were excluded from school for one week and Diphtheria contacts for two weeks, and intimations in all these cases were addressed to the Education Authority.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

- (a) **MILK SUPPLY.** ... Frequent inspections of cowsheds and dairies are made by your Sanitary Inspector to ascertain whether the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order are being complied with. Samples of milk are submitted to the County Medical Officer for bacteriological examination and to the County Analyst for analysis.
- (b) **MEAT, etc.** ... All slaughter-houses, meat shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared are kept under observation by the Sanitary Inspector.
- (c) **ADULTERATION etc.** Action under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act is carried out by the West Riding County Council Inspectors; samples of milk are also obtained by the Sanitary Inspector.

In conclusion, I beg to acknowledge with thanks the kindness and courtesy I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council and the help I have received from your Deputy Clerk, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

T. CROWLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1939.

WATH-UPON-DEARNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report,

1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Wath-upon-Dearne Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in submitting to you my report on the work completed during the year 1938.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

During the year the following inspections were made :—

Nature of Inspection.	Primary Inspections.	Re-inspections.
Inspection of houses under Housing or Public Health Acts re Housing defects	92	137
Inspection of premises re nuisances	246	353
Cowsheds	50	—
Dairies and Milkshops	2	—
Slaughter-houses	522	—
Butchers' shops, vans and stalls ...	182	—
Ice cream premises	1	2
Factories	16	7
Caravans	3	2
Lodging-houses	1	—
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act ...	32	58
Works in progress	76	—
Infectious diseases	62	3
Miscellaneous inspections	204	—
Totals	1,489	562

Complaints Received.

110 complaints were received during the year and all were investigated without delay. The following is an analysis of the complaints received.

Nature of Complaint.				No. of Complaints Received.
Choked drains	...	...	...	16
Defective drains	...	...	...	5
Defective water-closets	...	...	...	8
Verminous premises	...	...	...	5
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	6
Housing defects	...	...	...	28
Effluvium nuisances	...	...	...	2
Unpaved yards	...	...	...	3
Overcrowding	...	...	...	2
Insufficient refuse accommodation	...	...	...	4
Refuse not removed	...	...	...	3
Rats or Mice infestation	...	...	...	13
Dirty houses	...	...	...	3
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	10
				<u>110</u>
Number of complaints received during 1938				110
Number outstanding from 1937				35
Number to be dealt with				<u>145</u>
Number of complaints not upheld				11
Number of cases where nuisances were abated				103
Number of cases where nuisances were not abated at end of year				31
				<u>145</u>

Nuisances.

Number of nuisances found in 1938	...	...	...	...	315
Number outstanding, 31st December, 1937	...	...	...	...	102
Total needing abatement	...	...	...	..	417
Abated during 1938	...	...	...	...	341
Nuisances outstanding, 31st December, 1938	...	...	...	...	<u>76</u>
Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	142
Number complied with	...	...	...	...	140
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	14
Number complied with	...	...	...	...	★27

★ Includes 14 notices served during 1937 which were complied with during 1938.

**Particulars of Nuisances abated and Defects remedied
under the Public Health Acts.**

New drains constructed	...	...	...	...	12
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Drains, gullies, etc., cleansed	...	...	...	...	42
Sink waste pipes trapped, repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	12
Additional water-closets provided	...	...	...	...	5
Water-closet structures repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Water-closet fittings repaired	...	..	...	...	19
Eaves gutters cleansed, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	11
Fallpipes disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	1
Common yards paved	...	...	...	...	28
Private yards paved	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
Privies demolished	...	...	...	...	8
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	22
Dustbins provided in lieu of ashpits	...	...	...	...	64
Defective dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	99
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	11
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	14
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Food-store ventilators repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	30
Internal walls repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Dampness remedied	...	..	...	...	16
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Sub-floor ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	2
Defective skirting boards repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks renewed	...	..	...	...	5
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Chimney flues and stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty or/and verminous houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	15
Disused wells filled up	...	...	...	...	1
Dilapidated sheds removed	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous defects remedied	...	...	...	...	15

Sanitary Accommodation.

The following table shows the number of dwelling-houses in the various Wards in the District and the sanitary accommodation provided.

WARD	Dwelling-houses	Dwelling-houses with Shops included in Column 1	Shops and Factories	Miscellaneous Buildings	Privies	Water-closets	Fixed Ashpits		Dustbins	Cesspools	Slip-closets
							Wet	Dry			
Central ...	925	43	43	40	19	1130	10	19	927	5	1
East ...	706	34	11	9	18	758	6	3	699	—	—
Wharncliffe	759	25	24	15	1	900	—	1	831	—	—
Winterwell	652	42	26	12	4	728	2	3	665	—	1
Melton ...	746	27	23	17	—	811	—	4	746	1	—
Totals	3788	171	127	93	42	4327	18	30	3868	6†	2

† Including 2 for Cowsheds only.

The number of houses in the various Wards without separate water-closet accommodation is shown in the following table.

WARD	Number of Houses sharing Water-closets	Number of Water-closets	Number of Houses sharing Privies	Number of Privies
Central ...	18	8	2	1
East ...	Nil	Nil	8	4
Wharncliffe	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Winterwell...	Nil	Nil	2	1
Melton ...	12	8	Nil	Nil
Total	30	16	12	6

No steps were taken during the year to secure the provision of additional sanitary conveniencies to these houses, because most of them are either subject to Demolition Orders or may be dealt with under the provisions of the Housing Act requiring the demolition of the property in the near future.

Abolition of Privies and Ashpits.

Eight privies situated in the centre of the Town were demolished during the year. Four of the privies were attached to houses which were also provided with water-closets in addition, and so the privies were chiefly used for the deposit of dry refuse. Conversion of the other four privies at Town End had been left over for a number of years owing to difficulties of drainage, but

nuisances arose in connection with the privies necessitating steps being taken to secure their demolition and the provision of four new water-closets for the four houses concerned.

Twenty-six insanitary ashpits (22 dry and 4 wet) were abolished and 64 dustbins provided in lieu of the ashpits for the storage of house refuse, following informal notices to the owners of the property. It would be an advantage if the few remaining ashpits were abolished so that a regular weekly collection of house refuse from all premises in the District could be carried out.

HOUSING.

Housing repairs were carried out to 36 dwelling-houses as a result of informal intimations being sent to their owners, and in addition extensive repairs were carried out to 5 dwelling-houses in compliance with the requirements of formal notices.

Much time has been spent on the inspection of premises and preparation of reports in connection with Clearance Areas. An area containing 36 dwelling-houses and one lock-up shop situated at Newhill was declared to be a Clearance Area on 4th January, 1938, and the public local inquiry was held on the 19th July, 1938. Delay in providing re-housing accommodation however resulted in the confirmation of the Clearance Order being held up until the 23rd March, 1939. In addition to dealing with Newhill (No. 1) Clearance Area, 61 houses contained in seven areas in various parts of the District were inspected during the year, following instructions by the Council to prepare detailed reports upon the housing condition in those Areas. Reports were also made upon three individual unfit houses but no further action had been taken with regard to those at the end of the year.

One house (No 2, Well Lane) was closed during the year in accordance with a Closing Order made in 1936, one unfit house (No. 7, Star Yard) was demolished, and one unfit house belonging to the Council (part of the Old School House) was closed during the year.

Lodging-house.

There is one lodging-house in the district which was inspected on one occasion during the year. The premises are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

At the end of the year there were three caravans used as dwellings stationed in the District, an increase of one over the previous year. Two of the vans were inspected and found to be unsatisfactory. Reports upon these were made to the Council but no action to secure their removal has yet been taken.

Eradication of Bed-bugs.

Number of Council houses found to be infested with bed-bugs	2
Number of Council houses disinfected	2
Number of other houses found to be infested with bed-bugs	4
Number of other houses disinfected	3

Less trouble has been experienced with bug infested houses during 1938. The two Council houses were only slightly infested.

To cleanse infested houses, the skirting boards, picture rails and architraves are removed where necessary and the rooms sprayed with liquid insecticide (Zaldecide).

No steps were taken to disinfect the belongings of persons moving into Council houses but so far as is known no families from verminous houses were granted Council houses during the year. Disinfestation with Zaldecide was carried out by the Council. Re-visits are paid from time to time to ascertain whether disinfestation has been successful and to encourage tenants to prevent re-infestation of the property. Seven houses, dealt with in 1937, were visited for this purpose.

Inspection of Factories.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power	11	1	Nil
Factories without mechanical power ..	11	Nil	Nil
Other Premises under the Act	1	Nil	Nil
Totals	23	1	Nil

Defects found in Factories.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	2	2
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1	1
Defective or unsuitable sanitary conveniences	2	2
Other nuisances	2	2
Totals	7	7

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk and Dairies.

Milk production was carried on at 13 farms in the District at the end of the year. About 135 cows are kept at these farms, 20 cowsheds being in use. All the cowsheds in use were inspected during the year, 50 inspections being paid with a view to ensuring that cleanly methods are adopted in the production and handling of milk.

Number of persons registered as cowkeepers	...	...	13
Number of persons registered as retail purveyors of milk			76
Number of wholesale purveyors of milk	...	...	16

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

The practice of taking samples of undesignated milk and submitting them to the County Medical Officer's Department, Wakefield, for bacteriological examination was continued. Although there is no definite standard of cleanliness for undesignated milk, the practice of taking samples and comparing the results with the standard laid down for "Accredited" milk is found of great assistance in the work of milk and dairies inspection, and helps to maintain a reasonable standard of cleanliness in the production of undesignated milk. 17 samples were taken during the year and the following is a statement of the results of the examination of the samples compiled from reports received from the laboratory, the samples from each producer being grouped together:—

Producer's Number	Sample Number	Age of Milk when sampled (hours)	Temperature on arrival at Laboratory	Methylene Blue Test. Period before decolourisation (in hours)	Remarks
1	191	Nil	12°C.	5	Not satisfactory
	200	Nil	18°C.	S.	Satisfactory
2	196	$\frac{1}{2}$	16°C.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Not satisfactory
3	186	$\frac{1}{4}$	10°C.	$5\frac{1}{2}$	Not satisfactory
	195	$\frac{1}{4}$	16°C.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Not satisfactory
4	202	$\frac{1}{2}$	15°C.	S.	Satisfactory
5	192	Nil	12°C.	2	Not satisfactory
	197	Nil	16°C.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Not satisfactory
6	199	Nil	18°C.	4	Not satisfactory
10	188	Nil	10°C.	S.	Satisfactory
12	187	$\frac{1}{4}$	10°C.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Not satisfactory
	190	$\frac{1}{4}$	12°C.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Not satisfactory
	198	$\frac{3}{4}$	18°C.	2	Not satisfactory
	203	Nil	15°C.	S.	Satisfactory
14	201	$2\frac{1}{2}$	15°C.	4	Not satisfactory
17	189	Nil	10°C.	S.	Satisfactory
20	193	Nil	12°C.	5	Not satisfactory

NOTE.—A sample is regarded as satisfactory which is not decolourised at the end of $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours if it has been taken between the 1st of May and the 31st October, or at the end of $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours if taken between the 1st November and the 30th April.

All the 17 samples were taken from milk produced within the Urban District, and 12 samples, or 70%, were unsatisfactory when compared with the standard of cleanliness laid down for "Accredited" milk.

The percentages of samples of undesignated milk produced within the District during each of the past four years, and reported unsatisfactory are as follows:—

Year	Number of Samples	Nature of Tests applied	Percentage of Samples Unsatisfactory
1935	26	Plate Count Test and B. Coli Test	19%
1936	22	ditto	14%
1937	30	Methylene Blue Test	57%
1938	17	ditto	70%

The results of the samples taken during 1938 again show the greater difficulty in fulfilling the requirements of the Methylene Blue Test. All the 12 unsatisfactory samples were of uncooled milk and as, since the introduction of the Methylene Blue Test, these samples are no longer cooled by transporting them in an ice box to the Laboratory but are allowed to gradually cool down to atmospheric (shade) temperature, they are subject to a disadvantage which does not apply to cooled milk. Only one sample of cooled milk was taken and this satisfactorily passed the test.

Tuberculous Samples.

One sample of milk submitted to the laboratory for examination was reported to be infected with tubercle bacilli. The cows at the farm concerned were examined by an Assistant County Veterinary Officer but he was unable to detect any animal showing signs of disease. Subsequent samples of milk were taken at the farm and submitted to the biological test and these did not show any cow to be giving tuberculous milk.

Milk (Special Designations) Order.

One supplementary licence to retail "Pasteurised" milk and one dealer's licence to retail "Accredited" milk in this District were granted by the Council.

Only two of the 13 farms in the District produce "Accredited" milk under licence granted by the West Riding County Council.

Meat and Other Foods.

There were 12 private slaughter-houses in the District at the end of the year, but only 7 have been in use for slaughtering purposes. One old registered slaughter-house which had fallen into disuse was demolished by the owner, and the registration was cancelled.

522 visits were paid to slaughter-houses, chiefly in connection with the inspection of animals slaughtered. Attention was also given during these visits to the limewashing and cleansing of the slaughter-houses, removal of manure and other refuse, and inspections of the rooms where cooked meat, pies, etc., were prepared.

Every effort was made to inspect the carcasses and organs of all animals slaughtered, particular attention being given to cattle and pigs. All diseased meat condemned was surrendered, and was collected by the Council's employees so that it could be properly disposed of.

182 visits were made to butchers' shops, vans and stalls for inspection of meat offered for retail sale. There were no prosecutions with respect to the sale of unsound food. No cause of complaint could be found with the cleanliness of butchers' shops and vans, but the occupiers of two meat stalls in the market had to be cautioned for displaying meat on stalls which had not been thoroughly cleansed.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (approx.)	115	269	19	2080	1075★
Number inspected	107	249	19	945	1043★
All Diseases except Tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	3	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	26	—	3	8
Percentage of the number in- spected and affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2·8%	10·4%	—	0·6%	0·8%
Tuberculosis Only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	2	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ..	9	62	—	—	44
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	8·4%	25·7%	—	—	4·2%

★ Figures include 25 pigs slaughtered by, or on behalf of cottagers on premises other than registered or licensed slaughter-houses.

The following statement shows the unsound meat which was surrendered during the year for destruction :—

Tuberculosis.

Beasts.	46 sets of lungs. 33 heads. 13 mesenteries. 11 livers. 2 spleens. 1 set of stomachs. 1 kidney. 1 pancreas. 1 neck of beef. Whole carcasses and organs of 2 cows.
Pigs.	33 heads. 15 mesenteries. 18 plucks. 2 livers.

Other Diseases.

Beasts.	11 udders 5 livers 4 livers 4 livers 1 udder 1 liver 1 set of lungs 2 livers 2 livers 1 set of lungs 1 tongue	Mastitis. Angiomatosis. Distomatosis. Abscesses. Abscesses. Cysts. Cysts. Cirrhosis. Fatty infiltration. Inflammation. Actinomycosis.
Pigs.	5 sets of lungs 3 livers 1 liver 1 set of lungs 1 set of lungs	Pneumonia. Cirrhosis. Cysts. Pleurisy. Inflammation.
Sheep.	1 liver 1 pluck Carcasses and organs of three sheep and fore-quarters of one sheep	Cysts. Distomatosis. Extensive bruising.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

22 licences for the slaughtering or stunning of animals which have been granted by the Council were in force at the end of the year. Two licences which expired during the year were renewed. Section 1 of the Act, did not apply to sheep slaughtered in the

Council's District, neither is it the practice to use the humane killer on pigs slaughtered by cottagers on premises other than licensed slaughter-houses.

Numerous inspections were made during visits to slaughter-houses to ascertain whether the requirements of the Act were being complied with, but no contraventions of the Act were found.

Shops Act, 1934.

Eight inspections were made of shops under the provisions of the Act relating to ventilation and temperature of shops, and sanitary conveniences in connection with shops. Two shops were found to be without means of maintaining a reasonable temperature in the shops, and informal action was taken to remedy this. The necessary heating apparatus had not been installed at the end of the year. Two other shops in which heating apparatus was installed were found to be not maintained at a reasonable temperature, and complaints were received from employees concerned when in cold weather the heating apparatus was not in use. Informal action was taken with a view to preventing the recurrence of this contravention of the Act.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Eight samples of milk were obtained and submitted to the Public Analyst during the year. Seven samples were reported genuine and free from preservative, and one sample deficient in fat.

The results of the analyses are given below :—

Sample No.	Total Solids %	Non-fatty Solids %	Fat %	Ash %
9	12·14	8·90	3·24	0·72
10	11·00	8·92	2·08	0·74
11	12·76	9·30	3·46	0·76
12	12·10	9·10	3·00	0·74
13	12·28	9·19	3·09	0·70
14	12·88	8·80	4·08	0·70
15	11·70	8·68	3·02	0·68
16	11·96	8·89	3·07	0·70

The producer of Sample No. 10 was cautioned by the Clerk of the West Riding County Council.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

A total of 90 inspections were made in connection with rat infested premises. Baiting and trapping were carried out on several occasions and steps taken to render premises less attractive

to rats by securing the removal of rubbish, old sheds, etc. A part-time rat-catcher was appointed towards the end of the year, commencing on the 4th November, 1938, the appointment being for a temporary period of three months. He has attended to any complaints received of rat infested premises and has also been engaged in destroying rats on the refuse tip, sewage works, and other premises belonging to the Council. Baits were laid in sewers during National Rat Week and leaflets explaining methods of rat destruction were sent to the occupiers of food shops, stables, poultry and pig-keepers, etc.

Infectious Diseases.

SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

Enquiries were made into 102 of the cases of these diseases which were notified during the year.

Disinfection of the infected rooms of the dwelling-houses was carried out by means of formalin vapour immediately after the removal of the patient to hospital, or in cases where isolation was effected at home, upon the recovery of the patient.

Books from the Public and Circulating Libraries found at houses where infectious diseases occurred were collected and disinfected before being returned to the libraries concerned.

Public Cleansing.

This portion of the report deals with the collection of house and trade refuse for the financial year ending 31st March, 1939. This work came under my supervision from the 8th July, 1938.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Two S.D. Freighters, each of 6 cubic yards capacity, are employed full time on refuse collection, with four loaders attending on each vehicle in addition to the driver.

The standard of accommodation for the storage of refuse at each house of the working-class type is one galvanised iron dustbin of a capacity of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet. A few privies and dry ashpits still remain in use and steps were taken to reduce the number during the year. Privies are emptied monthly, dry ashpits fortnightly and dustbins weekly.

In order to obtain a fairly reliable estimate of the total weight of refuse collected during the year, the whole of the refuse collected during one week in each period of three months was weighed. Based on these test weighings, the average weight of refuse collected per 1,000 population per day was 22 cwts.

This figure is high when compared with that of non-mining districts, mainly due to the large amount of coal of poor quality

burned in domestic firegrates in this area, resulting in greater quantities of ash and shale being placed in the dustbins.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.

Receptacles.	No. Emptied.	No. of Loads.
Dusbins	198,897	3,615
Dry Ashpits ..	233	114
Privies	157	70
Cesspools	5	8
Shop Refuse ..	—	224
TOTAL Number of Loads		4,031

Total Weight of Refuse Collected ... 5,443 tons.

Average Weight per Load 1 ton 9 cwts. 2 qrs.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

All refuse collected has been disposed of by tipping at the Wet Moor Lane tip. Extra labour has been employed and steps taken to improve the condition of the tip and to dispose of refuse as far as possible by controlled tipping methods in accordance with the recommendations made by the Ministry of Health.

The total cost of the collection and disposal of refuse for the year ending 31st March, 1939, was £2,464.

	1937-38.			1938-39.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
The cost per ton was	—				9	1
The cost per 1,000 population	201	8	1	182	4	9
The cost per 1,000 houses ...	731	5	9	653	11	7

Figures showing separately the cost of collection and the cost of disposal of refuse during the year are not available. The decrease in cost compared with the year 1937-38 has however been brought about by economies in the work of refuse collection. Increased expenditure has been incurred in disposal because of the additional labour engaged at the tip. The saving in collection has therefore to some extent been offset by an increase in the cost of disposal.

I thank all the Officials of the Council for the assistance they have given to me in carrying out my duties and I also appreciate the interest that Members of the Council have shown in the work.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

W. W. WILKINSON,
Sanitary Inspector.

Town Hall,
Wath-upon-Dearne,
July 1939.

